



# **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION NORTHERN IRELAND & THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND APRIL 6-11, 2003**

The U.S. Department of Commerce is organizing an Information and Communications Technologies Business Development Mission to Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Join the mission, led by USDOC technology leaders, and take advantage of this unique and cost-effective opportunity to explore and gain access to the technology industry in the Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland technology marketplace.

## **Market Highlights**

**Northern Ireland** Northern Ireland has enjoyed the fastest growing segment of the U.K. economy during the 1990s, and economists predict that trend will continue in 2003. Unemployment rates are at the lowest levels on record--at 6 percent in late 2001. Over 90 percent of new jobs added in recent years are in electronics, telecommunications, and software.

**Republic of Ireland** The Republic has boasted the fastest-growing EU economy in recent years, and future growth is anticipated for 2003. An EU member since 1973, the Republic boasts an expanding labor force with skilled labor and low unemployment. The ICT sector has been one of the fastest growing segments of the Republic's economy, and U.S. investment has been a primary source of that growth.

## **Best Sales Prospects**

Numerous opportunities for trade and partnership in e-commerce, telecommunications, electronics, and software. Also opportunities for partnership in R&D in lab and university and cross-border initiatives.

## **One-on-One Business Meetings, and More**

A team of U.S. Commercial Service industry experts in these markets will identify quality business contacts from your sector and arrange a personalized itinerary of one-on-one appointments for your company. As a participant, you will be provided with meeting space, in-depth market briefings, hospitality, and full logistical support.

## **Tentative Itinerary:**

April 6	Arrive in Belfast, N. Ireland Evening Reception
April 7	Market Briefing One-on-one Meetings
April 8	One-on-one Meetings Evening departure for Dublin
April 9	Market Briefing One-on-one Meetings Evening Reception
April 10	Market Briefing One-on-one Meetings
April 11	(Optional) One-on-one Meetings End of Mission

## **Estimated Participation Fee:**

**\$ 3,000 per company**

**\*\*Fee does not include air travel, lodging,  
and incidental expenses**

## **Application Deadline:**

**March 12, 2003**

To request more information please fax this page to Nuala O'Connor Kelly, Chief Counsel for Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce, FAX (202) 482-0253, or call (202) 482-1984 for an application form.

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Company Name:**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Email:**

**Tel/Fax:**

**Website:**

**Service/Product:**

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